

**Isles of Scilly**



# **In Touch**

**MAY 2010**

**Methodist Church Circuit**

### **Chairman of the District**

Revd. Steven Wild M.A.

### **Minister**

Revd. Charles R. Gibbs

### **Local Preachers**

Barbara Hasler    Len Michell  
Neil Didlick        Gordon Bird  
Christopher Savill

### **Circuit Stewards**

Mrs Christine Savill 423563  
Mr Mervyn Bird 423117  
Mr Len Michell 422409  
Mrs Beryl Read 422977

**Circuit Treasurer** Mr Christopher Savill 423563

**Circuit Meeting Secretary** Mrs Rose Didlick

### **Church Stewards St. Mary's**

Mr Philip Lethbridge    Mrs Claire Jenkins  
Mrs June Lethbridge    Mrs Sue Williams  
Mrs Beryl Read

**St. Martin's** Mr Derek Perkins

**St. Mary's** Mrs Sue Williams (422605)

### **Treasurer**

**Church Council Secretary** Mrs Beryl Read

**Property Secretary** Mrs Mary Ratcliffe

**Organist** Mr Len Michell 422409

### **St. Martin's**

**Church Council Secretary** Mrs Jackie Perkins

**Church Treasurer** Mr Alan Terry

**Organist** Mr Rodney Ashford 423109

**Connexional Link Person** Beryl Read 422977

**Gift Aid Secretary** Mrs Stephanie Bird (423117)



### **Some thoughts from St Mary's Manse**

I expect that my letter this month may be a little longer than usual, but as I look in my diary it is clear that there is a lot to look forward to in the month of May.

First let me just say a few things about some of the things that have happened over the last month. It was a great joy to me on Maundy Thursday to be on St Martin's, where that evening we met for a time of fellowship. Members brought along poems and thoughts, those present were in good voice, and the singing was superb. Hot cross buns were served, and in the midst of all this we were reminded of the last evening that Jesus was with his disciples before His cruel death the following day. Somehow the chapel on St Martin's seemed a perfect setting for this event. If you have not been to our chapel on St Martin's for a while, make a point of visiting over the summer months, I do assure you that if you come on a Sunday you will be sure to get a warm welcome from our Methodist friends on that island.

On St Mary's a Passover Meal was shared on the Wednesday of Holy Week. The previous Sunday Trevor Adams had spoken of Passover at our evening worship and this event organised by William and Trish Thomas brought it all to life. This was indeed a blessing to all those who were present.

Good Friday on St Mary's was a time of witness to our community. The service in the chapel at 10:30 was well attended and a large number of people followed the large Cross which was taken through Hugh Town to be placed on the summit of Buzza until Easter morning. At the foot of Buzza Hill Len Michell spoke about the hymn 'There is a Green hill Far Away', and on the summit Father Guy Scott said a prayer of blessing.

We returned to the Manse just before 12 noon where Pauline Jackson-Cocking and Veronica Deade served us all soup and shepherds' pie, with egg sandwiches provided by Claire Jenkins. This was a fine event with worship, witness, and fellowship coming together...This is our church at its best!

On Easter Sunday we had well attended services on St Martin's and St Mary's. Many visitors came to swell our numbers. This was a wonderful celebration of our free gift of Life Eternal which is given to all who will place their trust in the Risen Jesus.

It is, I believe, crucial that we continue to be 'Mission Minded' in the time ahead, there are many on these fine islands who are yet to hear the Good News of The Gospel. As a church we need the teaching, fellowship, and prayer to make our church strong in the days to come. During the month of May we have invited some 'key speakers and teachers' to help us in our mission. These good folk are coming to our islands at no cost to us, they are coming to inspire us, they are coming to teach us, and to be there to listen, and to attempt to answer our questions. If you would like one of these visiting ministers to come to your home it can be arranged, but please do be sure to come to listen to what they have to say.... What has been arranged will be a great blessing to us all.

At the start of May we have the Reverend Professor H Peter Stephens coming to our islands. This man is a scholar of great note, he is a past president of The Methodist Church and he will be speaking on the evenings of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of May at the fellowship room on St Mary's. This is a unique opportunity to listen and to ask questions. Peter will be with us for a few days and will be leading worship on St Martin's and St Mary's on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Peter is a Cornishman, he visited the Isles of Scilly as a child, and he is looking forward to coming to share his vision of 'being church' with us all. We pray that his visit will be a great blessing to our church, and inspire us to be a church where all may again find hope in the Risen Jesus.

On Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of May Rev Andrew Bell the Methodist Chaplain to Essex University will be speaking about his time of ministry in the Yorkshire Dales. He will be preaching and visiting on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of May on St Martin's, he will attend our Annual Church Meeting, and he will lead the evening worship at St Mary's that Sunday. He will be with us for a week, so if you would like him to visit you let me know.

At the end of the month we welcome The Rev H Barrie Morris to our islands. Barrie and his wife Elizabeth were for many years evangelists in Central Africa, he is a past member of the Methodist Conference, a Biblical teacher well worth listening to and a keen golfer! Come on Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of May in the evenings to share fellowship, food and be inspired by this stoic and enthusiastic man of God. Barrie and his wife Elizabeth again will be here for a week and would love to receive invitations to visit your homes... make the most of this special visit.

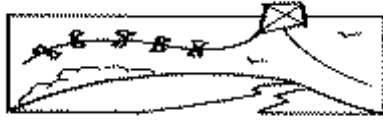
I see a great future for the Methodist Church on these islands. Together we will witness to the great love of God to the people who live here, we will continue to welcome our visitors, and through prayer, Biblical teaching and good fellowship, we will each be equipped to carry out that great commandment 'To Love One Another!'



I remain, by the grace of God, and with the support of you all, the Methodist Minister for these fine Islands for a while. I give thanks to God daily for the faithfulness of His people, and for the vision He has given to us of being united in proclaiming the things of His Kingdom to this world in which we live.

Every Blessing!

*Charles R Gibbs.*



## NEWS FROM ST.MARTINS

It is always pleasing to welcome new and regular holidaymakers to our services, and this was the case over Easter Week.

Whilst not a visitor, it was good to have Gwen and her friend Olive join us for the Maundy Thursday Supper in the Sunday School room, where Chris Hensleigh had decorated the window in an appropriate way with palm leaves, a cross and the tomb.

Our evening started with prayer and some thoughts about relevant passages from the Bible. Charlie then explained that the Passover meal would have had an informal entertainment element to it. With this in mind, we had been encouraged by him to take along stories and poems to read aloud for the enjoyment and reflection of others. This time of fellowship was followed by coffee and Hot Cross Buns. A most meaningful evening was concluded with Holy Communion. Those of us returning to St. Marys then had to say swift goodbyes before a lumpy trip home in the dark.

Along with fellow Christians worldwide, we sang our "alleluias" with gusto on Easter Day. The glorious weather after Easter enhancing the sounds and signs of new life, seemed to underline the message of a fresh start in Christ, and our deliverance from sin through his death and resurrection.

Heather.



## **Teddies for Tragedies**

For many years I have collected little knitted teddy bears to send to children in deprived and disaster ridden areas the world. For the charity Teddies for Tragedies , they are sent in a bag, tied up with a ribbon under the armpits. Dear friends here have knitted them for me. Sadly, for Mrs Banfield, Roger's mother and for Mrs Enid Bray, the

knitting days are gone, their participation greatly appreciated. The teddies themselves are a joy, with no two identical. The clothes are made of surplus wool and their faces are embroidered differently.

Recently I was sent new guidelines by the charity- they must be no longer then 10 inches. To comply it meant that their last consignment was down to only 9 teddies, also that extra bears have gone to UCDF and will probably go to Uganda next month. To my lovely knitters I say, don't worry about the restrictions!

I was able recently to recruit a dear friend to make the bags.— Mrs Mary Barnes. For any child receiving a teddy, the bag is an extra bonus, and often these are their only possessions.

Very many thanks to all my contributors- please carry on the good work. There are plenty of materials -wool available in all colours, stuffing and patterns- for anyone who would like to take up the challenge!

Gwen Clarkson

**The Isles of Scilly**  
**Grand Treasure Hunt**

**Hidden deep  
below the ground  
is a  
rare bust of  
John Wesley**

**To enter this exciting event call at the Manse  
At Church Street St Mary's and Rev Charlie Gibbs  
will give you all you need .  
Call Scillonia 422406**

**An adventure for all the family to enjoy!**

**With a prize to be truly treasured**

**Entry fee £5.00  
All profits from this event will be donated to the  
Isles of Scilly Methodist Church**

**Be prepared to visit many fine locations, think long  
and hard; who knows, you may be the one who dis-  
covers this fine bust of he who once visited the good  
folks on the Isles of Scilly.**

**This is not for the feint hearted, but for those with  
determination and wit!**



## **On the General Election**

**So many policies, so much cynicism, just one vote**

### **A prayer**

**Loving God,**

Thank you for caring about how our country is run, and that we have the right to vote for our politicians and government. But in the run-up to this general election there are so many policies to understand, and so many different points of view to consider - sometimes I wonder whether there's any point in voting, whether anyone cares what I think.

As I choose who I am going to vote for, help me not to be cynical about politics and politicians, help me to remember that my vote can make a difference, and help me vote for those people who will protect the poor and vulnerable, and do all they can to make our nation a place of fairness and peace. Because you call us to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen

### **On a lighter note**

There are two sides to every question, and a politician usually takes both.

It's nice to have five years between elections. It takes people that long to regain their faith

A politician thinks of the next election; a statesman of the next generation

A time of thanksgiving  
For the ongoing life of  
St Mary's Methodist Church  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
10:30 am Celebration Service  
Led by the Rev Charlie Gibbs

11:30 am Coffee and tea will be served

12:00 noon Annual General Church meeting.  
At this point the minister will thank all those who  
have served our Church in the past year. The  
stewards and reps to our church council will be  
elected and there will be the chance to ask  
questions about the life and mission  
of our church

12:45 pm A fine bring and share luncheon will be  
served

Please speak to the ladies of the chapel about what food you will  
be bringing for our Church family lunch.

This is a meeting open to all!

We do hope you will show your support and love  
for our Church by being with us at this important  
event.

Together we will continue to love and to serve.

## **Important Notice**

At our Annual Church Meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May we will be electing those who will be serving as Stewards and Representatives to our Church Council for the coming year (From 1<sup>st</sup> September)

This year we urgently need two people to join our team of Church Stewards.... Could you please help!!!

To be a steward means that you will be on a rota that asks you every few weeks to help get the chapel ready for worship and to keep an eye on things so that all runs smoothly on a Sunday. You will be shown what to do. If you have never done anything like this before, now is the chance for you to be a great help to the ongoing life of our Church. Speak to our minister the Rev Charlie Gibbs. He is a friendly chap and will tell you just what is involved. He will be delighted that you have offered to help. Together we will make sure that our church is always here for the good people of St Mary's and to be a place of welcome to all our many visitors.

Also, if you would like to serve on our Church Council, which meets three times a year to help in planning the ongoing life of our Church, let our minister know. If you can help in this way in the coming year (starting 1<sup>st</sup> September) we will be delighted to welcome you to join other friends in this important work.

If possible, please let our minister know by the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. His telephone number is 422406, or just come along to the manse and I expect you will be offered a cup of tea.

St Mary's Methodist Church - Here to share the love of God on the Isles of Scilly..... We are here for all in need!  
Because God so loved the world!



### **Mizpah** by *Nigel Beeton*

"May the LORD keep watch between you and me when we are away from each other." (Gen 31:49) To the tune: St Clement (The Day Thou Gavest)

May Father God keep watch between us,  
While we must spend this time apart,  
And may his gracious love sustain us,  
His healing hand upon our hearts.

In parting, though our hearts be broken,  
And tears, unbidden, fill our eyes  
Our Father hears our prayers unspoken  
And listens to our heartfelt cries.

With but one glance our Lord beholds us,  
His sight can span the chasm wide,  
With one embrace his love enfolds us,  
We're each close by our Father's side.

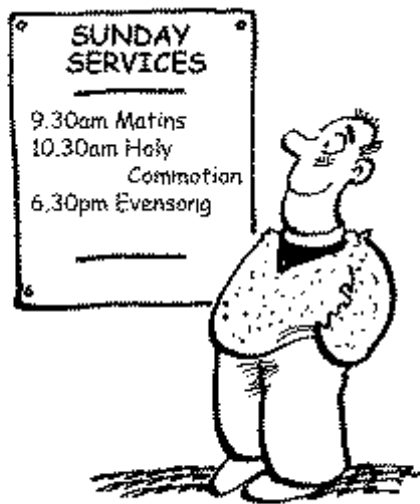
For we believe his love will bring us  
In time, to his blest rendezvous,  
O Lord, we pray, keep watch between us,  
Until, once more, we meet in You.

### **Thinking of you**

We would like to send our prayers and thoughts for God's sustaining presence to Mary following Guy's death at the end of March and to the family of Enid who died in the middle of April.

Both will be greatly missed.

My daughter, aged eight, attended the Parish Communion. She watched the bread and wine being prepared with great interest. When the congregation left their seats to receive the sacrament she whispered: "Do you think it would be alright if I joined in with the commotion?"



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### **Already well connected**

The telephone rang in the office of the church that the MP attended when visiting his constituency. An eager voice inquired: "Do you expect the MP to be in church on Sunday? If so, I was thinking of coming along." "That," said the clergyman, "I cannot promise. But we do expect that God will be there, and we fancy that that should be incentive enough for a reasonably large attendance."

## **Called to be you**

Vocations Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Easter, is the Sunday set aside in the Church's calendar to encourage all of us think about our vocation.

So what is your vocation? You may think that you don't have a vocation or that vocations are the sort of thing clergy have. But if you think that, you're wrong. Each of us does have a vocation. God calls each one of us. The question, though, is to what?

First and foremost, God calls us to change: to become more Christ-like. We are called to live out our lives in response to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That process began in our baptism, but it continues through prayer, through the reading of the scriptures and through the receiving of Holy Communion. One of the constant themes in the New Testament is that lives touched by Christ were changed. What is true for the characters of the New Testament is true for us. As we encounter and respond to Christ we cannot help but be changed.

But while we are called to change, we are also called to be more deeply ourselves. God never calls us to be something or someone we're not. God always calls us to what we are capable of becoming. It may be that there are parts of us which are underdeveloped or which rarely see the light of day which need to be allowed to flourish so we can be our true selves.

It may be that we have hidden gifts which need to be discovered or it may be that there is something that we have secretly always wanted to do but have not had the courage or the time to try. Whatever it may be we need to find an outlet which will allow us to feel more excited about life or indeed to feel more alive.

St Irenaeus wrote that 'the glory of God is a human being fully alive'. Through the dual process of becoming more fully ourselves and of becoming more fully Christ-like, the will of God is fulfilled and the glory of God seen. That is what Vocations Sunday is about. You have one life. For God's sake and for your own, live it!

## When you plan your garden this Spring

Plant three rows of peas  
Peace of mind  
Peace of heart  
Peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash:  
Squash gossip  
Squash indifference  
Squash grumbling  
Squash selfishness.

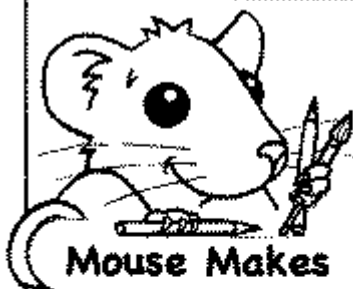
Plant four rows of lettuce:  
Lettuce be faithful  
Lettuce be kind  
Lettuce be happy  
Lettuce really love one another.



No garden should be without turnips:  
Turnip for service when needed  
Turnip to help one another  
Turnip the music and dance.

Water freely with patience and  
Cultivate with love.  
There is much fruit in your garden.  
Because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden  
We must have thyme:  
Thyme for fun  
Thyme for rest  
Thyme for ourselves.

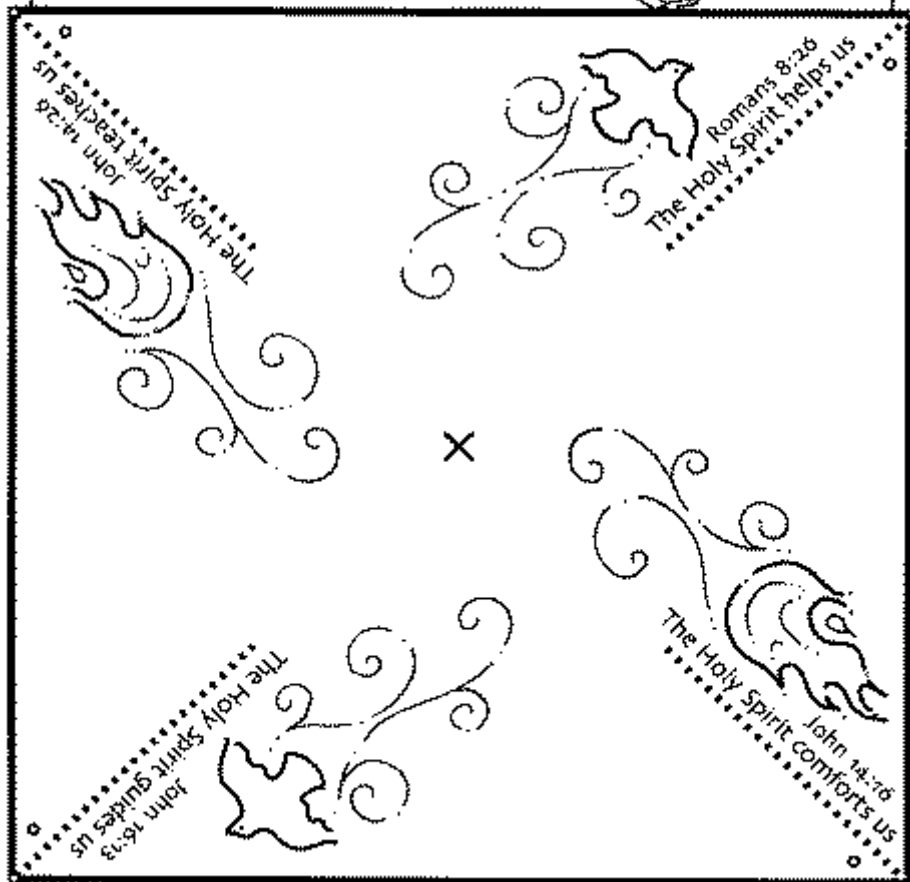


## Mouse Makes

What happened at  
**PENTECOST?**  
READ Acts 2:1-42

"They  
were  
all  
filled  
with  
the  
**HOLY  
SPIRIT**"  
Acts 2:4

1. Glue onto coloured paper.
2. Cut out and cut along 'dotted' diagonal lines
3. Bend out a paperclip. Tape onto wooden stick
4. Push clip end through centre 'x'
5. Bend each corner with a 'o' to centre 'x' and push over end of clip
6. Bend over clip end to secure.





Happy Birthday to you

**Birthday Greetings** this month go to

Harriet Pender, Michael Jenkins, Dorothy Beedell, Mervyn Bird, Chris Hensleigh, Nick Jenkins, Andy Brooks and Emma Roberts  
God's blessings to you all.

We wish Barbara a speedy recovery and hope to see her back with us in Church soon.

**13 May is Ascension Day....**

Hail the day that sees him rise

To his throne above the skies;

Christ, a while to mortals given,

Reascends his native heaven. Charles Wesley



**23 May is Pentecost – the birthday of the Christian Church**

He who has the Holy Spirit in his heart and the Scriptures in his hands has all he needs. A. MacLaren

**30 May is Trinity Sunday**

The divine nature is really and entirely identical with each of the three persons, all of whom can therefore be called one. 'I and the Father are one'. St Thomas Aquinas



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*Any contributions will be gratefully received by 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. The magazine uses material from the Parish Pump, a resource for editors to which we subscribe.*

## Diary Dates

### May

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> & Friday 7<sup>th</sup>**

**The Reverend Professor W Peter Stephens  
Past President of the Methodist Church**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Rev Andrew Bell Methodist minister and Chaplain to Essex  
University**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Annual General Church Meeting- see page 12**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Rev Charlie Gibbs**

**The DNA of Methodism: - Evangelism**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Rev H Barrie Morris Methodist minister evangelist, past  
member of the conference, and missionary in Central  
Africa.**

### **Regular events**

**Wednesdays 2.00pm At Home at The Manse**

### **Let Thy Blessing Rest Upon Us**

Let Thy blessing rest upon our Church, O Lord.  
Out from the by-roads, out of our care-filled days  
We come, an earnest throng, to hear Thy word.  
To offer Thee sincere and heartfelt praise.  
We come to seek Thy steadfast guiding power,  
We come to lay our burdens at Thy feet;  
We seek the calming quiet of this hour  
Away from the clamouring throng, the crowded street.

Let Thy blessing rest upon this Church, we pray,  
Upon a people in their vital need;  
Be Thou our helper. Be our guide and stay.  
And be our wine, the bread on which we feed.  
Lord God, for every church in every land,  
We crave a blessing from Thy mighty hand.

*With thanks to Royton Methodist Church magazine*

## PRAYER CHAIN

In the first instance please contact me, Mary Ratcliffe 423030 or Revd. Charles Gibbs 422406. I will then pass on the prayer request to the first name in each of the groups.

<b>Mervyn &amp; Stephanie Bird</b>	<b>423117</b>
Sue Williams	422605
Keith & Sam Grossett	422503
Merryn & Vicki Smith	423360

<b>Claire Jenkins</b>	<b>423546</b>
Neil & Rose Didlick	422838
Margaret Snowball	422896
Gordon & Fiona Bird	422550
Sonia Crompton	422854

<b>Barbara Hasler</b>	<b>422208</b>
Margaret Crane	422596
Len & Sylvia Michell	422409
Pamela Thomas	423115
June Lethbridge	422404

<b>William &amp; Tricia Thomas</b>	<b>423144</b>
Peter Laverock	422199
Beryl Read	422977
Gwen Clarkson	423106

*For the Prayer Chain to be effective it is essential that requests are forwarded to the person in the column beneath your name, if that person is not available please ring the next person on the list.*

## MAY NOTICES

### St. Mary's

2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30	Leader: Beryl Read Preacher: Revd. Jeremy Dare Sacrament of Holy Communion
Park Hse	4pm	Gordon Bird
	8pm	Revd. Jeremy Dare
9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15	Leader : Mervyn Bird Preacher: Neil Didlick
	11.00	Leader: Rev Charles Gibbs Preacher: Revd. Prof. Peter Stephens
	8pm	Barbara Hasler
16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Revd. Gibbs
	8pm	Leader: Revd. Charles Gibbs Preacher: Revd. Andrew Bell
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.15	Leader: Mervyn Bird Preacher: Len Michell
	11.00	Revd. Charles Gibbs
	8pm	Leader William Thomas
30 <sup>th</sup>	9.15	Leader: Beryl Read Preacher: Neil Didlick
	11.00	Revd. Charles Gibbs Sacrament of Holy Communion
	8pm	Len Michell

### St. Martin's

2 <sup>nd</sup>	6pm	Leader: Revd. Charles Gibbs
9 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Leader: Revd. Charles Gibbs Preacher: Revd. Prof. Peter Stephens
16 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Leader: Revd. Charles Gibbs Preacher: Revd. Andrew Bell
23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00	Barbara Hasler
30 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Revd. Charles Gibbs Sacrament of Holy Communion